



ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 052250-5003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Manuel R. SILVA, Jr. et al.

Application No.: 10/622,631

Filed: July 21, 2003

For: DRY SPRINKLER

Group Art Unit: 3752

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
2011 South Clark Place  
Customer Window  
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03  
Arlington, VA 22202

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO Form 1449.

To the best of the undersigned's knowledge, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application and no fees are believed to be necessary.

Documents identified by Tabs 1 to 8 on the attached PTO-1449 are "Other Documents" provided to identify two dry sprinklers that existed prior to the invention of the applicants. Tabs 1-5 illustrate, by digital color photographs, a first sprinkler. Tabs 6-8 illustrate, by digital color photographs, a second sprinkler.

**The First Sprinkler – Tabs 1 to 5:**

Tab 1 is a perspective view of components of the first sprinkler. Tab 2 is a side perspective view of one of the components that has a metal sealing structure. Tab 3 is a side perspective view of the components of the first sprinkler illustrated in Tab 2. Tab 4 is a side perspective view of the components of the first sprinkler in an assembled arrangement; a portion

of the exterior being cut-away to show the configuration of the components in the assembled position. Tab 5 is a close-up view of the first sprinkler illustrated in Tab 4.

**The Second Sprinkler – Tabs 6 to 8:**

Tab 6 is a perspective view of the components of the second sprinkler. Tab 7 is a perspective view of the second sprinkler in an assembled arrangement; a portion of the exterior being cut-away to show the configuration of the components in the assembled position. Tab 8 is close-up perspective view of one end of the second sprinkler of Tab 7; a portion of the exterior being cut-away to show the configuration of the components in the assembled position, including a metal sealing structure.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached PTO Form 1449.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed document is material.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the invention over the listed documents, should the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

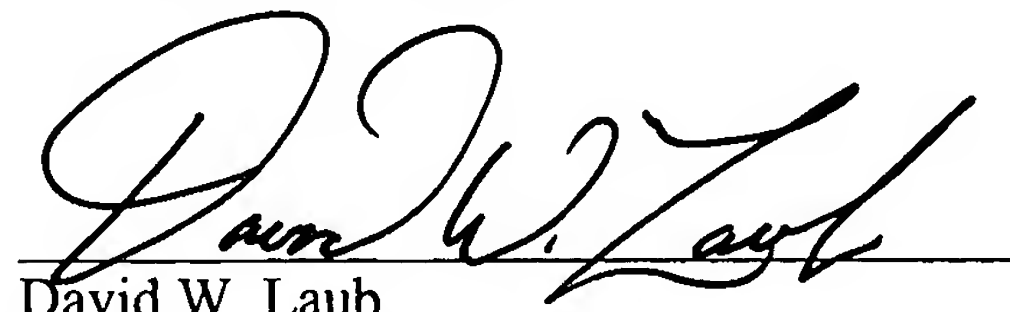
If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310.

Respectfully submitted,

**MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP**

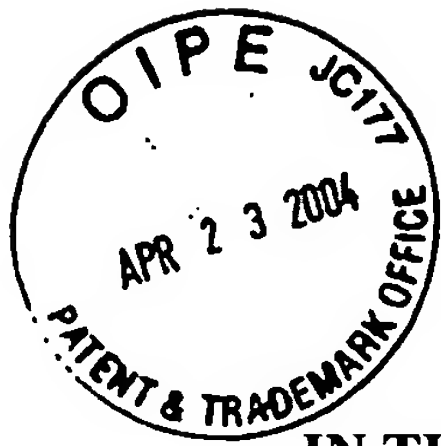
Dated: April 23, 2004

By:



David W. Laub  
Reg. No. 38,708

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) Group Art Unit: 3752  
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) Examiner: To Be Assigned  
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To the best of the undersigned's knowledge, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application and no fees are believed to be necessary.

Documents identified by Tabs A and B on the attached PTO Form 1449 are published U.S. Patent Applications.

Documents identified by Tabs C to Y on the attached PTO Form 1449 are U.S. Patents.

Documents identified by Tabs 1 to 10 on the attached PTO Form 1449 are "Other Documents" relating to dry sprinklers.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached PTO Form 1449.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better prior art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed document is material or constitutes "Prior Art." If it should be determined that the listed documents do not constitute "Prior Art"

under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should any of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

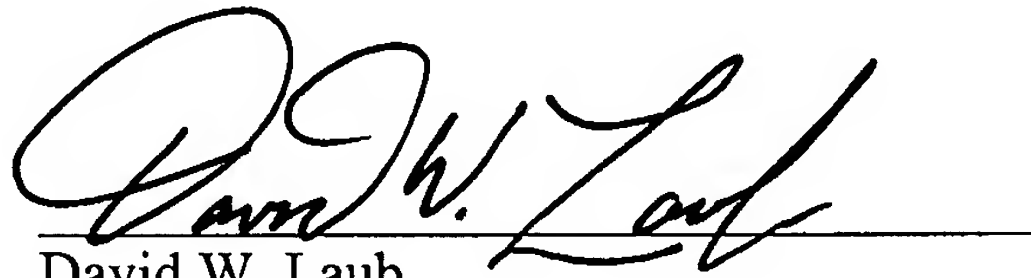
If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310.

Respectfully submitted,

**MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP**

Dated: April 23, 2004

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David W. Laub", is written over a horizontal line.

David W. Laub

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O I P E J C I  
 (Use by)  
 APR 23 2004  
 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

(Use several sheets if necessary)

**PTO Form 1449**

Application No.:  
10/622,631

**Applicant(s):** Manuel R. SILVA, Jr., et al.

**Sheet 1 of 1**

**Filing Date: July 21, 2003**

Group Art Unit: 3752

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*Examiner Initial	Tab	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date

**OTHER DOCUMENTS** (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

[illegible]

**Examiner**

Date Considered

**Examiner:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

Attorney Docket No.  
052250-5003

Application No.:  
10/622,631

Applicant(s): Manuel R. SILVA, Jr., et al.

Sheet 1 of 2

PTO Form 1449

Filing Date: July 21, 2003

Group Art Unit: 3752

## U.S. PATENT PUBLICATIONS

*Examiner Initial	Tab	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date
	A	2003/0075343 A1	04/24/2003	Ballard			
	B	2002/0050531 A1	05/02/2002	Dolan			

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*Examiner Initial	Tab	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date
	C	5,967,240	10/19/1999	Ondracek			
	D	5,775,431	07/07/1998	Ondracek			
	E	5,228,520	07/20/1993	Gottschalk			
	F	5,188,185	02/23/1993	Mears			
	G	4,417,626	11/29/1983	Hansen			
	H	4,258,795	03/31/1981	Hansen			
	I	4,228,858	10/21/1980	Sclafani			
	J	4,220,208	09/02/1980	Jackson et al.			
	K	4,177,862	12/11/1979	Bray			
	L	4,091,872	05/30/1978	Mountford			
	M	4,007,878	02/15/1977	Anderson			
	N	3,584,689	06/15/1971	Willms			
	O	3,135,331	06/02/1964	Lee			
	P	3,080,000	03/05/1963	Gloeckler			
	Q	3,061,015	10/30/1962	F.E. Cann, Jr.			
	R	3,007,528	11/07/1961	Gloeckler			
	S	2,871,953	02/03/1959	Bray			
	T	2,768,696	10/30/1956	Sherburne			
	U	2,732,018	01/24/1956	Grimes			
	V	2,180,258	11/14/1939	Rowley			
	W	2,155,990	04/25/1939	Hodgman, Jr.			

Examiner

Date Considered

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<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b>  (Use several sheets if necessary)  <b>PTO Form 1449</b>				Attorney Docket No. 052250-5003		Application No.: 10/622,631	
				Applicant(s): Manuel R. SILVA, Jr., et al.			
				Sheet 2 of 2			
				Filing Date: July 21, 2003		Group Art Unit: 3752	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*Examiner Initial	Tab	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date
	X	1,903,150	03/28/1933	Tyden			
	Y	1,338,469	04/27/1920	Waage et al.			

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)		
	1	Viking Corp., Technical Data, "Dry Pendent Sprinklers Model C" 4 sheets, January 1987.
	2	Chemetron Fire Systems, "Model ME-1 Flush Type Dry Pendent", 4 sheets.
	3	Total Walther Feuerschutz GmbH, "Hängender Trockensprinkler GHTS 15, Dry pendent sprinkler, Sprinkler anti-gel" Kenblatt-Nr. 4-044-03, 2 sheets, January 1989.
	4	Reliable, "Model G3 Dry Sprinkler", 4 sheets, November 1987.
	5	Victaulic, "Models V3608 and V3607 Standard Spray Pendent and Recessed Pendent Standard and Quick Response, 4 sheets, April 2001.
	6	Victaulic, "Models V3604 and V3603 "Dry type Upright – Standard and Quick Response", 4 sheets, April 2001.
	7	Globe Fire Sprinkler Corporation, "Automatic Sprinklers Model J Bulb Spray Series Dry Type Pendent Recessed Pendent", 8 sheets, August 1990.
	8	Globe Fire Sprinkler Corporation, "Dry Pendent Sprinklers Model F960 Designer, ½" Orifice", 4 sheets, February 2001.
	9	Central Sprinkler Corporation, "Dry Pendent Sprinklers Recessed, Flush and Extended Types Model "A-1"", 2 sheets, 1986.
	10	Preussag Minimax, "Sprinkler-Teile/Parts Trockensprinkler dry sprinkler", 2 sheets, January 1989.

Examiner	Date Considered
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